Government of
Saskatchewan

Annual Report
1984 - 85

Saskatchewan Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat

for the fiscal year ending
March 31, 1985

Minister
The Honourable Sid Dutchak

Saskatchewan
Indian and Native Affairs
Secretariat

544-1914 Hamilton Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4P 3N6

Letters of Transmittal

The Honourable F. W. Johnson
Lieutenant Governor
Province of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1985.

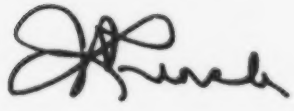
Sid Dutchak
Minister Responsible for
Indian and Native Affairs

The Honourable Sid Dutchak
Minister Responsible for
Indian and Native Affairs
Regina, Saskatchewan

Dear Sir:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat for the year ending March 31, 1985.

Respectfully submitted,



Joe Leask
Secretary

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Secretary's Introduction

I am pleased to submit this second Annual Report of the Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat.

The agency is the successor of the earlier established Indian and Native Affairs Branch within the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs. That branch had drawn together four separate units responsible for aboriginal affairs in three different line departments.

The Secretariat has the mandate in legislation to act as the contact for Indian and Native people with the Government of Saskatchewan; to establish social and economic development policies and programs for Indian and Native people; and to make recommendations with respect to matters affecting Indian and Native peoples.

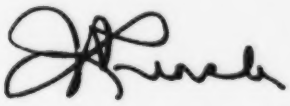
Functions central to the agency are the coordination of provincial policies, programs, and fiscal arrangements across all Departments; the formulation of policy in priority areas such as economic development, lands and resources, and aboriginal constitutional matters; and management of the Government-Aboriginal relationship, inclusive of the funding relationship.

During this second year of the Secretariat's operations, there were three major areas of activities. This included extensive involvement of the Secretariat in the Constitutional-Aboriginal discussions culminating in a First Ministers' Conference in Ottawa in April of 1985. Secondly, the Treaty land entitlement program was approved by Cabinet and the process commenced in cooperation with Indian Bands and the federal government. Finally, the Indian Economic Development Program, which had been established in the previous fiscal year, continued to expand and assist in the establishment of viable Indian businesses.

In respect to policy initiatives, considerable work was done in trying to frame the parameters for an Indian and Native economic development policy for the Province and it is expected that this initiative will be concluded successfully in the upcoming fiscal year. Secretariat staff were involved with the City of Regina, the federal government, and Native organizations to try and develop a policy to deal with the socio-economic conditions experienced by many urban native peoples.

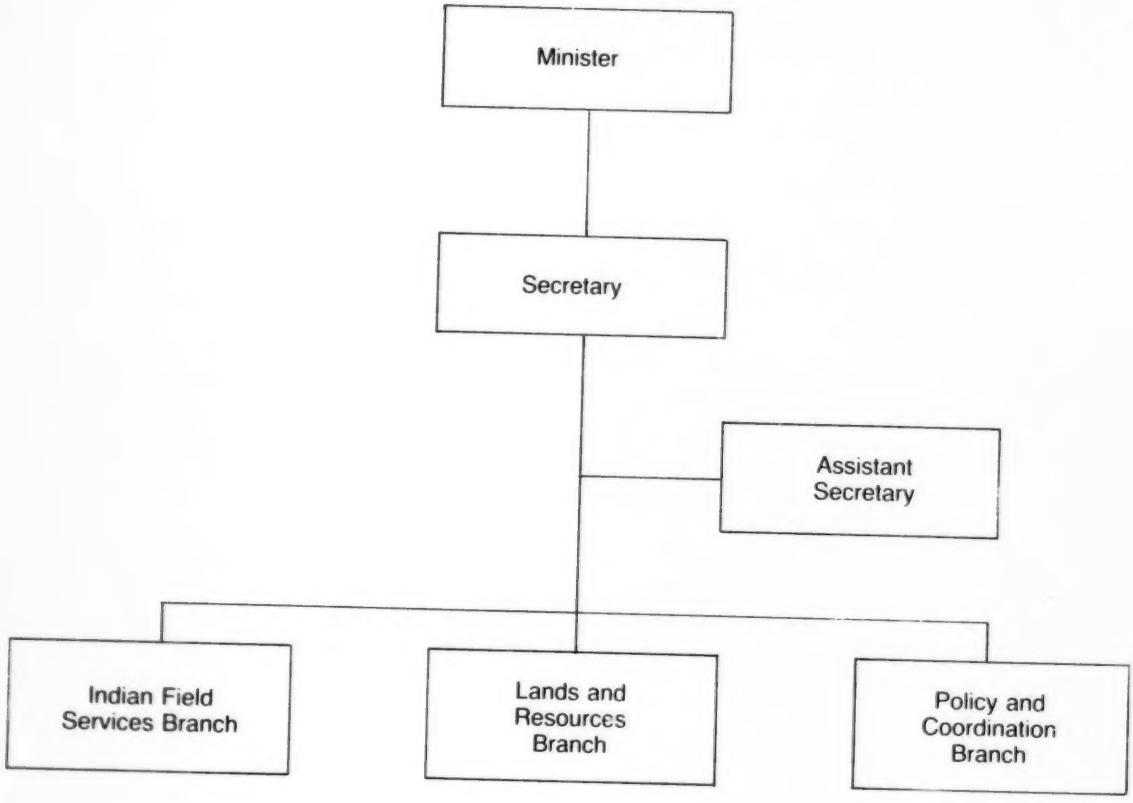
As a principal objective, the Secretariat continued to work to improve its role as a coordinating body among government departments to promote Indian and Native initiatives.

I wish to thank the staff of the Secretariat who played a key role in initiatives undertaken by the Secretariat in the past fiscal year.



Joe Leask

Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat Organization



Role and Structure of the Secretariat

The mandate of the Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat is outlined in **The Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat Act.** The Secretariat has responsibility for matters related to Indian and Native issues and may act as a contact for Indian and Native people with the Government of Saskatchewan; may establish social and economic development programs and policies for Indian and Native people; and may make recommendations with respect to matters affecting Indian and Native people.

In carrying out this mandate, the Secretariat undertakes a number of activities. Functions central to the operations of the Secretariat include the management of the Native policy framework for government including the formulation of policy in priority areas such as economic development, lands and resources and aboriginal constitutional matters; the coordination of government policies and programs; and the management of the relationship between government and aboriginal people and aboriginal organizations.

Organizationally, the Secretariat has been divided along lines which reflect major functional areas of activities. Separate branches exist for Indian Field Services, Policy and Coordination, and Lands and Resources. The Policy and Coordination Branch has broad responsibilities which include economic development and constitutional affairs.

Planning and Coordination

The planning and coordination role is an important element of the Secretariat's overall activities. The coordination of aboriginal policy and programs was undertaken at many different levels and included coordination between provincial departments, between the Province and the federal and municipal governments, and between the Province and Native non-government organizations.

At the interdepartmental level, the Secretariat provided a central agency role to provincial departments. The Secretariat has developed an overall policy framework to serve as a guide to departments when they plan initiatives related to aboriginal people. At the same time, the Secretariat maintained an overview of the current range of departmental policy and program activities. This overview allowed the Secretariat to provide leadership in dealing with aboriginal issues as well as maintain overall policy direction.

The Secretariat also coordinated departmental budget submissions into a Native package of programs during the preparation of government estimates. This ensured that overall government priorities respecting Native programs and issues were an intergral part of the budgetary process.

The Secretariat also coordinated provincial activities with activities being undertaken by other levels of government. The coordination of activities is designed to avoid duplication of services and to maximize the use of provincial resources. During the year under review, discussions continued with the federal government on a number of economic development initiatives. Discussions also progressed with the City of Regina and the federal government on an urban Native sub-agreement under the broader Economic and Regional Development Agreement.

The Secretariat also coordinated activities with Native non-government organizations. This liaison is intended to inform the organizations about provincial government policies and programs and to facilitate their input and involvement in provincial initiatives. The Secretariat provided core funding during the fiscal year to the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Native Communications Whetamatowin Corporation, the Saskatchewan Association of Friendship Centres, the Saskatchewan Indian Women's Association and the Saskatchewan Native Women's Association.

Staff from the Secretariat are assigned portfolios which reflect the spread of the Secretariat activities. Staff members maintained general liaison with provincial departments, the federal and municipal governments, and the non-government organizations with the purpose of keeping appraised of current issues and providing input on policy and program matters.

Economic Development

Introduction

Indian and Metis peoples represent approximately 10% of the population in Saskatchewan. Aboriginal peoples have a rich cultural heritage and experience which extends into the area of economic development. The Province's focus on economic development is consistent with their frequently expressed ambitions to be economically self sufficient. Aboriginal economic institutions and businesses contribute to financial growth at the community level and the Province as a whole. Such growth has been fostered by various provincial government initiatives.

Indian Economic Development Program

Fiscal 1984-85 represents the second year of operation of the Provincial Indian Economic Development Program. This Program was established to assist Indian people at the Band level become more economically self-sufficient. Through this Program, grants are provided as "seed money" to initiate viable Indian businesses.

In this regard, the four major objectives of the Program are as follows:

1. To create permanent and meaningful jobs for Indian people which will enable them to participate and contribute to local economies and the province as a whole.

2. To enable Indian people to become more economically self-sufficient. This is realized by the establishment of viable Indian businesses which create jobs over the long term. Further, these businesses are controlled and staffed by Indian people.

3. To focus on job creation in only the most viable sectors such as agriculture, forestry, resource development and tourism. This approach complements the overall Provincial strategy of giving priority to developing these sectors.

4. To press for a balanced and coordinated approach to Indian economic development with other Provincial and Federal programs.

The Program is an Indian-specific provincial initiative which directly provides financial support to Indian people at the Band level in the area of economic development. However, the Province's involvement in Indian economic development does not diminish the role of the federal government which has legislative responsibility for Status Indian people. Rather, the provincial Program serves to complement federal economic development and job creation initiatives in concert with overall economic development priorities and opportunities in Saskatchewan.

Administration of the Program

The Saskatchewan Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat has overall administrative and fiscal responsibility for the Provincial Indian Economic Development Program. Applications are submitted to the Secretariat to be assessed in terms of viability, funding sources and other information required under the criteria. Applications which meet the criteria are then forwarded to the Indian Advisory Board for review and funding consideration. The Indian Advisory Board was established during the summer of 1984 and consists of representatives appointed by each of the District Chiefs' Councils in the Province. Final Ministerial and or Order-in-Council approval is required under our legislation before grants can be released.

Eligibility

Only Status Indian people are eligible for grants under this Program. Accordingly, grants can be made to Status Indian individuals, Indian Bands and the Indian economic development institutions. While the program is aimed primarily at business development at the reserve level, consideration is given to Status Indian projects in urban centres.

Types of Projects

Grants are only provided for projects which can demonstrate their economic viability in the long-term and ability to create meaningful and permanent jobs. Grants are therefore **not** provided for make-work projects, construction of roads and office buildings, social service oriented projects, nor projects whose primary focus is job training and or related infrastructure development.

By the end of March 31, 1985, 67 grants had been disbursed under the Provincial Indian Economic Development Program at an expenditure level of $1,988,379. Sixty-two grants were for Band and individual businesses and five were of a province wide or economic institutional nature. A breakdown of funded projects by sector is as follows:

	Number of Projects	Funding	Percentage
Small Business	27	$ 649.368	32.6%
Construction Industrial	17	$ 553.717	27.8%
Tourism	4	$ 335.325	16.9%
Agriculture	5	$ 182.500	9.2%
Manufacturing	6	$ 164.238	8.3%
Forestry	2	$ 45.856	2.3%
Feasibility Studies	6	$ 57.375	2.9%
Total	67	$1.988.379	100.0%

As indicated in the above table, 32.6% of funding involved the small business sector, e.g. stores, restaurants, service stations, etc. This also included a second grant for $75,000 to the Saskatchewan Indian Equity Foundation to assist in the initial capitalization of a small business loan fund. It is anticipated that when fully capitalized from the federal government, the loan fund will approximate $4 million.

The construction industrial sector accounted for 27.8% of the grants and involved the purchase of equipment related to road and home construction, trucking and oil businesses. The tourist related sector involved grants for the development of golf courses, ski resorts, and cottage lot developments.

"Hon. Sid Dutchak, Minister Responsible for Indian and Native Affairs, provides Chairman Gerry Starr with a grant for the Saskatchewan Indian Loan Company."

Agriculture projects involved purchase of farm equipment, livestock and wild rice harvesters. In addition, $100,000 was provided to the Saskatchewan Indian Loan Company Ltd. to assist in capitalizing an agricultural loan fund. It is anticipated that when fully capitalized by the federal government, the loan fund will approximate $2 million. Small manufacturing was focused primarily in the production of canvas products and various Indian arts and crafts for sale both in Saskatchewan and beyond our boundaries.

The Provincial Indian Economic Development Program has proven to be an important catalyst in leveraging funds from other sources for economic development and employment opportunities. In addition to the Province's $2 million contribution, funding from the federal government, financial institutions, and other sources amounted to $9.3 million in fiscal 1984-85. These projects will have created 450 jobs for Indian people.

In addition to benefitting the Indian community directly, these businesses contribute to the local economy and the province as a whole by providing needed services through the purchase of goods, supplies and services.

"Hon. Graham Taylor, M.L.A. for Indian Head-Wolseley, presents Chief Henry Delorme with a grant for the Cowessess Golf Course Development."

Urban Native Economic Development

The provincial and federal governments have agreed, by signing a 1984-85 Economic and Regional Development Agreement, on a course of action to undertake in cooperation with selected Urban Centres and Aboriginal organizations, which will activate and formulate an Urban Native Economic Development Program.

Such an initiative is unprecedented and the province is ideally positioned owing to it's high concentration of Indian and Native people in Urban Centres. There is a recognized need by governments and Aboriginal organizations for developing specialized economic services for Urban Native citizens.

Over the course of 84-85 and as a result by the Regina Mayor's Task Force efforts on Indian and Native Initiatives, the three levels of government and Aboriginal organizations have outlined options for approaching a very complex and misunderstood area of community programming.

The year ahead will involve intensive work with all levels of government, the Aboriginal organizations, other sectors of the Urban Community including the Private Sector and Public Service groups, leading to a consensus on Urban Native Economic initiatives.

Federal/Provincial Special ARDA Agreement to March 31, 1987

The Honourable Sid Dutchak signed a new three year extension with the Federal Minister responsible for the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion, that Special ARDA continue to provide Small Business, Agricultural, and Training related services on a cost shared basis to Saskatchewan citizens of Native Ancestry.

Projects funded under the program range from large scale commercial enterprises to small rural based services related to business and farming operations. Hundreds of new jobs are created as Indian and Native people exercise successfully their potential to participate in the economic and business opportunities within Saskatchewan. The program is implemented by the provincial departments of Tourism and Small Business, Agriculture and Advanced Education and Manpower. Financing is available for assessing investment opportunities and capital, provided the endeavour has prospects for financial viability.

Aboriginal organizations and institutions (i.e. Gabriel Dumont Institute and the Saskatchewan Indian Agriculture Program) are represented equally with government officials on an advisory committee which provides sensitivity to native issues and needs. Collectively they decide and recommend projects to the respective Federal and Provincial Ministers.

The provincial government continues to support Aboriginal Business and Industrial development. Special ARDA is one mechanism enabling Saskatchewan's Indian and Native citizens to actively participate in provincial economic opportunities.

Provincial Policy Framework for Indian and Metis Economic Development

During 1984-85, the Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat undertook a series of consultations with federal provincial government departments, private sector representatives, and aboriginal organizations as part of the process for formulating an aboriginal economic development policy framework.

This process will provide the Province with a policy framework upon which to formulate, implement, and coordinate economic initiatives consistent with the priorities of aboriginal peoples themselves and which complement initiatives of the federal government and the private sector. The policy framework is intended to promote and expand economic development opportunities for aboriginal peoples.

Further, such economic development initiatives are essential in overcoming the complex social problems experienced by many aboriginal peoples.

Indian Field Services

The mandate and services of the Secretariat is extended directly at the community level through an Indian Field Services Unit. Field offices are located in Saskatoon, Fort Qu'Appelle, Kamsack, Prince Albert and Meadow Lake.

The Indian Field Officers serve an essential role in the delivery of the Provincial Indian Economic Development Program. Field Officers receive business applications and assess their viability under established Program Criteria. Consultation is also undertaken with financial institutions and other government agencies to secure funding

commitments for business proposals. Field officers are also responsible for the monitoring and follow-up of projects which have received provincial funding under the Program.

In addition to economic development, field officers have an important liaison role with Indian people at the Provincial, District, Band and individual level on a wide range of issues such as health services, child care, hunting and fishing rights etc. Field officers also provide information on new provincial programs and services.

Lands and Resources

Treaty Land Entitlement

Under the Canada-Saskatchewan Resources Natural Transfer Agreement which was signed in 1930, paragraph 10 provided that Saskatchewan transfer Crown land to Canada in order to meet Canada's obligations under Treaties concluded with Saskatchewan Indian Bands. Since 1930 very few of the legal obligations to provide the outstanding land entitlement to Indian Bands have been accomplished. Many Bands remain entitled to additional lands under the terms of the Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 concluded between the years 1876 and 1926.

One hundred years after the signing of Treaty six, the prior administration established a policy to fulfill Saskatchewan obligations in relation to the Treaties. In 1982 the policy of the prior administration was placed under review.

The policy review was completed in 1984. Options for a new policy were then considered by Cabinet at the end of the review.

Land and Land Use Issues

The Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat plans and coordinates activities involving a wide range of land and land use issues. Examples of issues arising during the year include:

- lands at Batoche in relation to the upcoming commemoration of the Batoche Centenary.

Resources

The Secretariat is responsible for coordinating provincial activity in relation to renewable and non-renewable resource issues involving Indian and Metis interests. These may include issues involving water rights, mines and minerals rights and ownership, forestry and agricultural leases and conservation issues.

A Federal/Provincial/Indian Conservation Committee was established.

Constitutional Affairs

The third of four constitutional conferences on the rights of aboriginal peoples of Canada, required by Section 37 of the **Constitution Act, 1982,** is scheduled to occur in Ottawa on April 2-3, 1985. The fourth of these conferences of First Ministers must be held before April 17, 1987. Each First Ministers' Conference is preceded by a series of preparatory meetings at both the Ministers' and the Officials' levels. In 1984-85, several such meetings were held to help lay the ground-work for the issues to be discussed at the First Ministers' Conference.

Participating in the constitutional process are the federal, provincial, and territorial governments and the four national aboriginal associations. These are the Assembly of First Nations, the Inuit Committee on National Issues, the Metis National Council, and the Native Council of Canada. Saskatchewan's participation in this process is directed by a committee of Ministers, composed of the Premier, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, and the Minister Responsible for Indian and Native Affairs. At the officials level is a committee of senior officials called the Executive Management Committee on Saskatchewan Aboriginal Constitutional Affairs.

Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat Year-End Expenditures 1984-85

Administration

Department Head and Branch Head Salaries	$ 74,500.00
Permanent Position-Salaries	580,874.34
Temporary Positions-Salaries	78,194.50
Labour Service, Casual and Part-Time Employment	4,365.64
Honorariums, Special Services and Fees	8,538.00
Allowances, Retiring Gratuities and T.P.H.D.	6,485.28
Professional and Technical Services	10,800.13
Rents, Insurance and Utility Services	10,387.00
Advertising and Printing Related Expenses	4,287.76
Repairs and Maintenance	894.71
Travelling Expenses	152,931.68
Postage, Communications, Freight, Express and Relocations Expenses	70,268.33
Computer and Word Processing Related Expenses	15,194.52
Contractual Services (other)	161,559.46
Stationery and Office Supplies	11,782.55
Scientific and Educational Supplies	581.30
Provisions and Business Expenses	4,755.62
Miscellaneous Materials and Supplies	408.87
Office Equipment	5,854.17
Sundry	3.14
Total Administration	$1,202,667.00

Grants

Native Grants	1,176,450.00
Indian Grants	2,079,869.00
Total Grants	3,256,319.00
Total Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat	**$4,458,986.00**